

May 17, 2010

Honorable Michael Gronstal
Senate Majority Leader
State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319

Honorable Pat Murphy
Speaker of the House
State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319

Honorable Chester Culver
Governor, State of Iowa
State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319

As Chair of the Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission, I am pleased to submit the Commission's Quarterly Report for January to March, 2010, prepared pursuant to 2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 118, §118 (S.F. 389, §1).

The report is also available on the Commission's website at http://www.legis.state.ia.us/scripts/docmgr/docmgr_comdocs.dll/showtypeinterim?id=true&type=ih&com=484

Sincerely,

David Carlyle, MD
Commission Chair



QUARTERLY REPORT

Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission

January - March 2010

MEMBERS

Voting Public

Dr. David Carlyle, Chairperson
Mr. Ted Williams, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Mike Abbott
Ms. Betty Ahrens
Ms. Jennifer Browne
Ms. Diane Crookham-Johnson
Ms. Joan Jaimes
Mr. Bruce Koeppel
Ms. Marcia Nichols
Mr. Tim Stiles
Mr. Joe Teeling

Nonvoting Legislative Members

Senator Jack Hatch
Senator David Johnson
Representative Mark Smith
Representative Linda Upmeyer

Nonvoting Ex Officio Members

Mr. Charles Krogmeier
Mr. Tom Newton
Ms. Susan Voss

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AUTHORIZATION AND APPOINTMENT

The Commission is required, by 2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 118, §1 (S.F. 389, §1), to develop an Iowa health care reform strategic plan, addressing various aspects listed in the legislation. The Commission is created under the authority of the Legislative Council, with administrative support to be provided by the Legislative Services Agency (LSA). The Legislative Council is required to appoint a chairperson and vice chairperson from the voting membership. An appropriation of \$200,000 for costs associated with the Commission, including any per diem or other expenses associated with meetings, is made to LSA in 2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 183, §65 (H.F. 820, §65), as amended by 2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 179, §160, (S.F. 478, §160). The Commission is required to complete its deliberations by July 1, 2011, provide quarterly reports, and provide annual progress reports on January 1, 2010, and 2011.



Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission

I. Introduction

A. Overview

The Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission (Commission) was created by 2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 118, §1 (S.F. 389) to prepare an Iowa health care reform strategic plan which includes but is not limited to a review and analysis of options for increased health care coverage of Iowa's children, adults, and families, with an emphasis on increased coverage for adults. The Commission has also been directed to develop prioritized recommendations for increasing coverage.

The Commission operates under the authority of the Legislative Council and has a defined existence set by statute, with a dissolution date of December 31, 2011. The Commission is required to conclude its deliberations by July 1, 2011, and to submit a final report to the General Assembly by October 1, 2011.

B. First Quarter Report – January to March 2010

The Commission is required to submit quarterly reports to the General Assembly summarizing the Commission's activities. This first quarterly report summarizes activities from January through March 2010.

II. Commission Activities – January to March 2010

A. Commission Meetings

At the direction of the Legislative Council, the Commission did not hold any public meetings after the January 6, 2010, meeting. However, the Commission, through the activities of Commission Chairperson Carlyle, Commission Vice Chairperson Williams, and Commission Coordinator Anne Kinzel, remained active during the legislative session which concluded on March 30, 2010.

B. Pertinent Legislation Enacted During the 2010 Session of the General Assembly

1. Senate File 2356 (Successor to S.F. 2092)

Background. In January 2010, the Commission submitted 11 recommendations to the General Assembly focused primarily on increasing the amount and availability of subsidized and unsubsidized health care coverage provided through public and private sponsorship for Iowa's adult uninsured population.¹

¹ See *Progress Report, Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission* available at <http://www.legis.state.ia.us/Isadocs/IntReport/2010/IPAMV000.PDF> for further information on the 11 recommendations and the process by which they were developed.



Senate File 2092,² individually sponsored by Senator Hatch and 25 other senators, was introduced on January 26, 2010. On February 16, 2010, the bill was voted out of the Senate Committee on Human Resources as a committee bill and was introduced as S.F. 2356. The proposed legislation contained language that was related to several of the Commission's recommendations as follows:

- **Recommendation 1:** Expand IowaCare.
- **Recommendation 4:** Iowa should develop a statewide diabetic registry.
- **Recommendation 6:** Iowa needs to develop a more seamless system for Iowans moving from public health care to private health care coverage, and moving from one public health insurance program to another.
- **Recommendation 8:** Information should be readily available to Iowans that provides details about the health care services provided by the safety net providers.
- **Recommendation 9:** Iowa should begin the process of designing an Iowa exchange.
- **Recommendation 10:** An Iowa exchange will need to provide quality data on providers and plans, and data to consumers and funders on the cost of medical care.

The Commission was specifically referred to in Section 7 of S.F. 2356, as enacted, creating the Iowa Insurance Information Exchange:

- a. The Commissioner of Insurance, in collaboration with the **Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission**, shall develop a plan of operation for the exchange within 180 days from July 1, 2010. The plan shall create an information clearinghouse that provides resources where Iowans can obtain information about health care coverage that is available in the state. (New Code §505.32 (3)(a)) [Emphasis added]
- b. The Commissioner of Insurance shall report on the status of the exchange at all regular meetings of the **Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission**, including progress in developing and implementing the exchange operationally, resources available through the exchange, information about utilization of the resources offered by the exchange, including demographic information that illustrates how and by whom the exchange is being utilized, and the costs of implementing and operating the exchange. The Commissioner of Insurance may make recommendations to the Commission for including but not limited to the following:
 - (1) Promotion of greater transparency in providing quality data on health care providers and health care coverage plans and in providing data on the cost of medical care that is easily accessible to the public.
 - (2) Statutory options that improve seamlessness in the health care system in this state.

² "A bill for an act relating to health reform in Iowa by creating an IowaCare plus program and an Iowa choice exchange." See <<http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?Category=BillInfo&Service=Billbook&ga=83&hbill=SF2092>>



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- (3) Funding opportunities to increase health care coverage in the state, particularly for individuals who have been denied access to health insurance coverage. (New Code §505.32 (4)(a)) [Emphasis added]

Chairperson Carlyle and Vice Chairperson Williams, accompanied by Commission Coordinator Kinzel attended numerous Senate and House subcommittee and committee meetings throughout the legislative session to respond to questions regarding the Commission's proposed role in S.F. 2356 and to ensure that any proposed legislation involving the Commission would be consistent with the Commission's charge as specified in 2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 118, §1 (S.F. 389, §1).

In addition, Commission members Tim Stiles, Jennifer Browne, and Bruce Koeppel also attended legislative meetings. Commission member designees were also present on occasion as were Commission state agency members.

2. Senate File 2201 – Insurance Division Omnibus Legislation

Senate File 2201, which relates to various matters under the purview of the Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce, added an additional duty for the Commission. The legislation requires the Commission to complete an annual review of the cost of health insurance mandates currently imposed on health insurance regulated by the state and provide projections of the cost of any mandates that the Commission determines may be considered by the General Assembly during the upcoming legislative session and to provide that information in the Commission's annual report to the General Assembly. (2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 118, §1 as amended by 2010 Iowa Acts, S.F. 2201, §32)

3. Senate File 2156 – IowaCare Program Updates and House File 2531, Division XIX – Health Care Programs

Senate File 2156, which relates to an update of the IowaCare Program and H.F. 2531, Division XIX, which includes provisions relating to health care programs, were also enacted by the 2010 General Assembly. (2010 Iowa Acts, S.F. 2156, and 2010 Iowa Acts, H.F. 2531, Division XIX)

C. Commission Coordinator First Quarter Activities

The Commission Coordinator maintained an active schedule on behalf of the Commission throughout the first quarter of 2010, attending numerous meetings in addition to the legislative meetings specified. Attachment 1 provides a summary of the meetings (nonlegislative) that the Commission Coordinator participated in during the first quarter of 2010.

The Commission Coordinator prepared materials for the Commission in a series of electronic communications designed to keep Commission members informed about the Iowa legislative session and the progress and substance of health care reform efforts at the national and state levels.

In addition to the meetings referred to in Attachment 1, the Commission Coordinator met with Chairperson Carlyle on a weekly basis and with Vice Chairperson Williams on a less frequent basis



to discuss Commission business and make plans for the remainder of 2010. The Commission Coordinator also responded to inquiries from interested citizens regarding Commission activities.

III. Next Steps

The Commission and its workgroups look forward to meeting in 2010 and beyond as specified in 2009 Iowa Acts, Ch. 118, §1 (S.F. 389) and as needed to complete the requirements specified in that legislation and to help create the Iowa Insurance Information Exchange as specified in S.F. 2356.

The Commission will continue to use the workgroup format to complete its duties. The three existing workgroups, Workgroup 1 - Coverage of Adults, Workgroup 2 - Use/Creation of State Pool, and Workgroup 3 - Administration of Health Care Reform in Iowa will continue to meet until their specific charge is complete. Workgroup 3, chaired by Vice Chairperson Williams, will focus its efforts on working with the Commissioner of Insurance to develop the Iowa Insurance Information Exchange, as S.F. 2356 gives the Commissioner of Insurance and the Commission from July 1, 2010, until December 28, 2010, to develop an Information Exchange plan of action.

Chairperson Carlyle has, at the request of Commissioner Joe Teeling, created Workgroup 4 - Private Sector Options which will concentrate on the following tasks:

- To determine the ramifications of requiring each employer in the state with more than 10 employees to adopt and maintain a cafeteria plan that satisfies §125 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- To determine the benefits that sustainable behavioral change, at the population level, can provide to help control health care costs.

The Commission will also monitor the recently passed federal health care reform legislation, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 (PPACA, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010) to develop a complete understanding of how anticipated federal reforms will impact the Commission's charge.

IV. Attachment

1. Listing of Nonlegislative Meetings Attended by Commission Coordinator Anne Kinzel, January to March 2010.



Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission

Listing of Nonlegislative Meetings Attended by Commission Coordinator January to March 2010

| Date | Group | Purpose | Location |
|---|--|--|-----------------|
| Jan. 22 | IDPH e-Health Council | Represent Commission | Des Moines |
| Feb. 5 | IDPH Prevention & Chronic Care Council | Presentation on behalf of Commission - Update on Commission, Legislative Session & Federal Health Care Reform | Des Moines |
| Feb. 12 | Iowa Collaborative Safety Net Provider Network Leadership & Advisory Group | Presentation on behalf of Commission - Update on Commission, Legislative Session & Federal Health Care Reform | Urbandale |
| Feb. 18 | Ames Young Professionals | Presentation on behalf of Commission Chairperson - Update on Commission, Legislative Session & Federal Health Care Reform | Ames |
| Feb. 19 | IDPH e-Health Council | Represent Commission | Des Moines |
| Feb. 23 | AARP | Panelist on Health Care Reform Panel | Des Moines |
| Feb. 24 | American Cancer Society | Keynote speaker - Update on Commission, Legislative Session & Federal Health Care Reform | Des Moines |
| Feb. 25 | Des Moines Register | Served as a nonadvocate, health care policy expert commentator as a "live blogger" for the President's Health Care Summit (*) | On-line |
| Feb. 26 | IDPH Medical Home System Advisory Council | Presentation on behalf of Commission - Update on Commission, Legislative Session & Federal Health Care Reform | Des Moines |
| Mar. 4 | Safety Net Provider Group | Joined Dr. Carlyle for a meeting of safety net providers regarding a proposed diabetic registry | Des Moines |
| Mar. 9 | IANEPCA | Met with IA/NEPCA (Iowa/Nebraska Primary Care Association) President Ted Boesen regarding IowaCare expansion | Des Moines |
| Mar. 18 | Health Care Data Collection Project | Met with Prof. Ruth Weatherly (Simpson College) regarding the <i>Health Care Data Collection Project</i> | Indianola |
| Mar. 25 | IDPH Health & Long Term Care Advisory Council | Presentation on behalf of Commission - Update on Commission, Legislative Session & Federal Health Care Reform | West Des Moines |
| Mar. 25 | Des Moines Register | Served as a nonadvocate, health care policy expert commentator as a "live blogger" for the President's health care speech in Iowa City (*) | On-line |
| (*) These nonpartisan and nonadvocacy appearances were cleared in advance with the Legislative Services Agency. | | | |